

Service of Process **Transmittal**

02/14/2018

CT Log Number 532798803

TO:

Kim Lundy Service of Process, Legal Support Supervisor

Walmart Inc.

702 SW 8th St, MS#0215 Bentonville, AR 72716-6209

RE:

Process Served in Georgia

FOR:

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (Former Name) (Domestic State: DE)

Walmart Inc. (True Name)

ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF LEGAL PROCESS RECEIVED BY THE STATUTORY AGENT OF THE ABOVE COMPANY AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE OF ACTION:

Wright Dianne, Pltf. vs. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Dft.

DOCUMENT(S) SERVED:

Entry, Summons, Form, Complaint, Interrogatories, First Request(s)

COURT/AGENCY:

Douglas County State Court, GA

Case # 18SV00047

NATURE OF ACTION:

Personal Injury - Failure to Maintain Premises in a Safe Condition - 11/06/2016 - Walmart Supercenter Store located at 1100 Thorton Road, Lithia Springs, Georgia

30122

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED:

C T Corporation System, Lawrenceville, GA

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE:

By Process Server on 02/14/2018 at 10:21

JURISDICTION SERVED:

Georgia

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE:

Within 30 days after service, exclusive of the day of service (Document(s) may

contain additional answer dates)

ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S):

Surieisha L. Williams S. Williams Law Firm, PLLC

P.O. Box 52421 Atlanta, GA 30355 404-490-3740

ACTION ITEMS:

CT has retained the current log, Retain Date: 02/15/2018, Expected Purge Date:

02/20/2018

Image SOP

Email Notification, Kim Lundy Service of Process ctlawsuits@walmartlegal.com

SIGNED:

ADDRESS:

C T Corporation System

289 S Culver St.

Lawrenceville, GA 30046-4805

TELEPHONE: 866-286-4469

Page 1 of 1 / DV

Information displayed on this transmittal is for CT Corporation's record keeping purposes only and is provided to the recipient for quick reference. This information does not constitute a legal opinion as to the nature of action, the amount of damages, the answer date, or any information contained in the documents themselves. Recipient is responsible for interpreting said documents and for taking appropriate action. Signatures on certified mail receipts confirm receipt of package only, not contents.

	Superior Court 🗆 🎤	Magistrate Court
Civil Action No. 18SV00047	State Court	Probate Court
TVI ADMONITORY	Juvenile Court	
5.4. Ett. 1 02/07/2019	Georgia, Douglas	COUNTY
Date Filed 02/07/2018	Ovorgiu, ————	• .
Attorney's Address	Diann	e Wright
S. Williams Law Firm, LLC	•	Plaintiff
P.O. Box 52421	vs.	
Atlanta, GA 30355		•
	Wal-Mai	t Stores, Inc.
Name and Address of Party to Served		
C T Corporation System (Wal-Mart Stores)		Defendant
289 S Culver St		
Lawrenceville, GA 30048-4805		
	·	Garnishee
SHERIFF'S ENTRY OF	SERVICE	
PERSONAL	1	Vi.
have this day served the defendant		personally with a copy
of the within action and summons.		
NOTORIOUS I have this day served the defendant		by leaving a
copy of the action and summons at his most notorious place abode in this County.		
Delivered same into hands of		described as follows
ge, about years; weight pounds; height feet	taxid inches,	domiciled at the residence o
lefendant.		
July:	<i>*</i>	
	pugis .	a corporation
	in the second	
Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with	A B B S	
CORPORATION Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County.	11 12 de 1	
Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County. IACK & MAIL	A ROBERT	
by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with	ting a copy of the same to t	he door of the premises
Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County. IACK & MAH [have this day served the above styled affidavit and summons on the defendant(s) by posterignated in said affidavit and on the same day of such posting by depositing a true copy	y of same in the United Stat	es Mail, First Class in an
Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County. IACK & MAIL	y of same in the United Stat	es Mail, First Class in an
by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with	y of same in the United Stat	es Mail, First Class in an
Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County. IACK & MAH I have this day served the above styled affidavit and summons on the defendant(s) by post designated in said affidavit and on the same day of such posting by depositing a true copy envelope property addressed to the defendant(s) at the address shown in said summons, we to the defendant(s) to answer said summons at the place stated in the summons. NON EST Diligent search made and defendant	y of same in the United Stat	es Mail, First Class in an
Served the defendant by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County. IACK & MAH [have this day served the above styled affidavit and summons on the defendant(s) by postesignated in said affidavit and on the same day of such posting by depositing a true copy envelope property addressed to the defendant(s) at the address shown in said summons, who the defendant(s) to answer said summons at the place stated in the summons. NON EST	y of same in the United Stat	es Mail, First Class in an

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18\$V00047

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

DIANNE V		. :				18SV	: /00047	
	Plaintiff,	;	: Civil	l Action	ı File N	0		– .
vs.					•	•		
WAL-MAI	RT STORES, INC.,	. :		. :				
	Defendant.	- ;		•				
				Ι,	•			•

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of said court and serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address is:

Suneisha L. Williams, Esq. S. Williams Law Firm, LLC P.O. Box 52421 Atlanta, GA 30355

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for relief demanded in the complaint.

	7th	Feb	ruary	
	This the 7 th	day_of	. 2018	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
7 ;				
•			Douglas County C	Clerk of State Court
			/s/ Tammy M	M. Howard
	•	•	By:	
			Deputy Clerk	• ''
	•	•	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•

Plaintiff(s)

Wright, Dianne

General Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filing Information Form 18SV00047 ☐ Superior or ☐ State Court of Douglas County County Defendant(s) Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. First Middle L Prefix Suffix First Last Suffix Prefix First Middle L Prefix Middle I. Suffix First Prefix First Middle L Suffix Prefix Lost Plaintiff's Attorney Sünelsha L. Williams Bar Number 417632 Self-Represented 🗆 Check One Case Type in One Box. Domestic Relations Cases Dissolution/Drivers Family Victorias British Paternity/Lagitimation STATES TO THE STATE OF THE STAT

Support - Private (non-IV-D) Other Domestic Relation

Post-Judgment - Check One Case Type

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FILED
2/7/2018 11:10 AM
Tammy M. Howard, Clerk
Superior & State Count
Douglas County, GA
185V00647

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

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COMPLAINT

COMES NOW, DIANNE WRIGHT, Plaintiff in the above-styled action, and hereby states her complaint against the Defendant as follows:

PARTIES

1

Plaintiff DIANNE WRIGHT is a resident of Lithia Springs, Douglas County, Georgia.

7

Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC. ("Defendant") is a foreign, for-profit, Delaware corporation licensed to do business in the State of Georgia and transacts business in Lithia Springs.

Douglas County, Georgia, and therefore, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court. The Defendant can be served through its registered agent: C T Corporation System, 289 S Culver St. Gwinnett County, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046-4805.

7

At all times relevant to this complaint, Defendant was engaged in the retail business, and in furtherance of that business, kept and maintained a place of business known as Walmart Supercenter which, upon information and belief, is located at 1100 Thorton Road, Lithia Springs.

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Georgia 30122, wherein it operated a retail store and offered to the general public retail items for sale. The general public was specifically invited to enter said store for the purchase of retail items.

Δ

By virtue of the facts alleged herein, venue of this action is properly laid in this Court, pursuant to Article VI, Section II, Paragraph VI of the 1983 Constitution of the State of Georgia and O.C.G.A.§ 14-2-510(a) and (b)(4).

STATEMENT OF FACTS

. **5**.

On or about November 6th, 2016, Plaintiff entered Defendant's Walmart Supercenter store which, upon information and belief, is located at 1100 Thorion Road, Lithia Springs, Georgia 30122.

6

Plaintiff entered Defendant's store as a customer to shop and purchase certain merchandise, and therefore, Plaintiff occupied the status of business invitees while on the premises of Defendant.

7

During the course of Plaintiff Wright's shopping in Defendant's store; Plaintiff was walking through the aisle where bottled water is located.

8

As Plaintiff was walking in this particular area. Plaintiff suddenly and without warning, slipped and violently fell to the surface of the floor with great force, causing serious injury to her person.

g.

Unbeknownst to Plaintiff, prior to her fall, there existed on the floor where she fell a

18SV00047

slippery, foreign substance or liquid which caused her to fall to the floor.

10

The existence of this foreign substance or liquid on the floor in Defendant's store created a dangerous and hazardous condition of which Defendant, by and through its employees; had actual or constructive knowledge, and which could not have become known to Plaintiff in the exercise of reasonable care and diligence on her part.

1.1

Defendant Wal-Mart Stores, by and through its employees, had actual knowledge of the existence of the dangerous and hazardous condition on the floor which caused Plaintiff to fall and resulted in serious injuries to her. Even though Defendant possessed such knowledge, it, by and through its employees, took no steps or actions, to either warn its customers and patrons of the existence of such a condition, or to timely remove the foreign substance or liquid from the floor.

12

Additionally, as alleged herein above, Defendant Wal-Mart Stores had constructive notice and knowledge of the presence of the dangerous and hazardous condition by virtue of attendant facts and circumstances which existed at the time of this occurrence complained of herein. Defendant negligently failed to inspect the premises and keep them safe, and negligently failed to have in place sufficient policies, practices and procedures, which, in the exercise of ordinary care and diligence, would have prevented the occurrence of which Plaintiff complains.

13

Defendant was negligent by failing to train and instruct its employees in the proper practices and procedures for inspecting and maintaining the floors in the store where customers, like Plaintiff, would walk or use while shopping in order to keep the floors safe, passable and free of

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dangerous foreign substances and liquids.

14

Defendant Wal-Mart Stores was otherwise negligent.

15

As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of the Defendant, its agents, servants and/or employees, Plaintiff suffered serious physical pain and mental anguish and serious bodily injuries. As a proximate result of the negligence of the Defendant, its agents and employees, Plaintiff has experienced pain and suffering and will continue to experience pain and suffering and mental anguish in the future. Plaintiff shows that the direct and proximate cause of the injuries and damages complained of herein were due to the acts and omissions of Defendant as set forth herein. Plaintiff is entitled to recover damages from Defendant Wal-Mart Stores for past, present and future pain and suffering and medical expenses:

16

Plaintiff Wright has incurred medical expenses with several medical providers, including, but not limited to: Barbour Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, Eastside Medical Center, Benchmark Physical Therapy, Perimeter Surgical Center, American Health Imaging, Summit Health Clinic, LLC, Electronic Waveform Lab, Inc., and Med South Surgical, Inc. Plaintiff is still treating as a result of the incident and will incur additional medical expenses for her care and treatment in the future. Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendant Wal-Mart Stores for past and future medical expenses in an amount to be proven at trial.

17

Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendant in an amount to be determined by the jury at trial for past, present and future pain and suffering in an amount to be proven at trial.

18SV00047

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff DIANNE WRIGHT prays as follows:

- (a) That process issue and Defendant be served as provided by law;
- (b) That Plaintiff has judgment against Defendant in an amount to be determined by the enlightened conscience of a jury at trial for past, present, and future pain and suffering;
- (c) That Plaintiff has judgment against Defendant in an amount to be determined by the enlightened conscience of a jury at trial for past, present, and future medical expenses and for the impairment of Plaintiff's body;
- (d) That Plaintiff has judgment against Defendant, in an amount to be determined by the enlightened conscience of a jury at trial, for past and future lost wages, and reduced earning capacity;
- (e) That Plaintiff has a trial by jury for all issues so triable;
- (f) That Plaintiff be awarded reasonable attorney's fees; and
- (g) That Plaintiff has such other and further relief as this Court deems just, equitable, and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 7th day of February, 2018.

S. Williams Law Firm, LLC

Suneisha L. Williams, Esq.

GA Bar No. 41 7632 Attorney for Plaintiff swilliams@swifile.com

P.O. Box 52421
Atlanta, GA 30355
Phone; (404) 490-3740
Fax: (844) 501-0923

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

DIANNE WRIGHT	Civil Action File No.							
Plaintiff, v.	18SV00047							
WAL-MART STORES, INC.,								
Defendant.	/							
ANSWI	ER OF DEFENDANT							
COMES NOW, Defendant W	AL-MART STORES, INC., (erroneously named)							
and makes this Answer to Plaintiff	i's Complaint as follows:							
<u>FI</u>	RST DEFENSE							
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is not	a proper party.							
SEC	COND DEFENSE							
Venue is improper for Wal-	Mart Stores, Inc.							
<u>TH</u>	HIRD DEFENSE							
Jurisdiction is improper for	Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.							
FOL	URTH DEFENSE							

Plaintiff has failed to join an indispensable party, Wal-Mart Stores East, LP.

FIFTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a claim against Defendant upon which relief can be granted.

SIXTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff's alleged damages, if any, were directly and proximately caused by Plaintiff's own contributory negligence and failure to exercise ordinary care.

SEVENTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff was not in the exercise of ordinary care for her own safety in the premises, and by the exercise of ordinary care could have avoided any injury to herself; and on account thereof, Plaintiff is not entitled to recover from Defendant.

EIGHTH DEFENSE

Defendant denies that it was negligent in any manner whatsoever or that any negligent act or omission on its part caused or contributed to any injury or damage alleged to have been sustained by Plaintiff.

NINTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff assumed the risk of any hazard that was presented and is thereby barred from recovering against Defendant.

TENTH DEFENSE

Defendant responds to the enumerated paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint as follows:

1.

Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information to either admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's Complaint.

2.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Plaintiff's Complaint, and shows that Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is not the proper Defendant.

3.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

4.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

5.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

6.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

7.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

8.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

9.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 9 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

10.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

11.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

12.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 12 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

13.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

14.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 14 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

15.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 15 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

16.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 16 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

17.

Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 17 of the Plaintiff's Complaint.

18.

All other allegations contained in the Complaint which are not specifically responded to herein, are, therefore, denied.

19.

Defendant denies Plaintiff's prayer for relief, including all subparts (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) thereof.

WHEREFORE, Defendant prays that Plaintiff's Complaint be dismissed with all costs cast upon the Plaintiff. DEFENDANT DEMANDS TRIAL BY A JURY OF TWELVE (12) PERSONS AS TO ALL ISSUES SO TRIABLE.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger Howard M. Lessinger Georgia Bar No. 447088

_/s/ Jennie Rogers
Jennie Rogers
Georgia Bar No. 612725
Attorneys for Defendant
WAL-MART STORES, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing ANSWER OF DEFENDANT WAL-MART STORES, INC. has this day been filed and served upon opposing counsel via Odyssey eFileGA.

This the 23rd day of February, 2018.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger
Howard M. Lessinger
Georgia Bar No. 447088
Attorney for Defendant
WAL-MART STORES, INC.

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

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Civil Action File No. 18SV00047

Plaintiff,

v.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

12-PERSON JURY DEMAND

COMES NOW Defendant, WAL-MART STORES, INC. and demands a trial by a jury of twelve (12) persons.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger Howard M. Lessinger Georgia Bar No. 447088 Attorney for Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing 12-PERSON JURY

DEMAND has this day been filed and served upon opposing counsel via Odyssey

eFileGA.

This the 23rd day of February, 2018.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger
Howard M. Lessinger
Georgia Bar No. 447088
Attorney for Defendant
WAL-MART STORES, INC.

2/23/2018 10:37 Tammy M. Howard, (Superior & State (Douglas County 18SV0

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

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Civil Action File No. 18SV00047

Plaintiff,

v.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

|--|

NOTICE OF TAKING DEPOSITION

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that beginning on the 1st day of June, 2018, commencing at 11:00 a.m, at the law offices of Suneisha L. Williams, Atlanta, Georgia the deposition will be taken of Dianne Wright. Said deposition will be taken for purposes of discovery and all other purposes provided by law before an officer duly authorized to administer oaths. The deposition shall continue from day-to-day until completion. This deposition may also be videotaped by a videographer.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger Howard M. Lessinger Georgia Bar No. 447088 Attorneys for Defendant

3445 Peachtree Road, N.E., Suite 500 Atlanta GA 30326 (404) 266-9171

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing <u>12-PERSON JURY</u>

<u>DEMAND</u> has this day been filed and served upon opposing counsel via Odyssey eFileGA.

This the 23rd day of February, 2018.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger
Howard M. Lessinger
Georgia Bar No. 447088
Attorney for Defendant
WAL-MART STORES, INC.

2/23/2018 10:37 Tammy M. Howard, (Superior & State (Douglas County 18SV0

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

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Civil Action File No. 18SV00047

Plaintiff,

v.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

CERTIFICATE REGARDING DISCOVERY

Pursuant to Uniform State Court Rule 5.2, as amended, the undersigned hereby certifies that the following discovery has been served upon all persons identified in the Certificate of Service attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference:

- 1) INTERROGATORIES AND REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO PLAINTIFF; and
- 2) REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS TO PLAINTIFF

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger
Howard M. Lessinger
Georgia Bar No. 447088
Attorney for Defendant
WAL-MART STORES, INC.

3445 Peachtree Road, N.E., Suite 500 Atlanta GA 30326

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing **CERTIFICATE REGARDING DISCOVERY** has this day been filed and served upon opposing counsel via Odyssey eFileGA.

This the 23rd day of February, 2018.

McLAIN & MERRITT, P.C.

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger
Howard M. Lessinger
Georgia Bar No. 447088
Attorney for Defendant
WAL-MART STORES, INC.

18SV00047

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

DIANNE WRIGHT	Civil Action File No.
Plaintiff, v.	18SV00047
WAL-MART STORES, INC.,	
Defendant.	/
CONSENT ORD	ER SUBSTITUTING DEFENDANT
It appearing to the Cou	rt that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP. is the correc
corporate Defendant, by conser	nt of the parties and for good cause shown, it is
hereby	
ORDERED that Wal-Mart	Stores East, LP. shall be substituted as a Defendan
in lieu of Wal-Mart Stores, In	c. The caption shall be amended to reflect tha
Wal-Mart Stores East, LP. is the	sole corporate Defendant. Plaintiff need not file ar
Amended Complaint to reflect	this substitution, and Defendant need not file any
further Answer.	
SO ORDERED this	day of, 2018.
	W. O'Neal Dettmering, Jr. Judge, Douglas County State Court
/s/ Suneisha L. Williams	/s/ Howard M. Lessinger
Suneisha L. Williams Georgia Bar No. 417632	Howard M. Lessinger
Counsel for Plaintiff	Georgia Bar No. 447088 Counsel for Defendant
PO Box 52421	3445 Peachtree Road, Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30355	Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 490-3740	(404) 365-4514
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18SV00047

IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

DIANNE WRIGHT

Civil Action File No. 18SV00047

FILED

Plaintiff,

MAR 0 1 2018

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Tammy M. Howard, Clerk Superior & State Court Douglas County, GA

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

CONSENT ORDER SUBSTITUTING DEFENDANT

It appearing to the Court that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP. is the correct corporate Defendant, by consent of the parties and for good cause shown, it is hereby

ORDERED that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP. shall be substituted as a Defendant in lieu of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. The caption shall be amended to reflect that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP. is the sole corporate Defendant. Plaintiff need not file an Amended Complaint to reflect this substitution, and Defendant need not file any further Answer.

W. O'Neal Dettmering, Jr.

Judge, Douglas County State Court

By Designation

/s/ Suneisha L. Williams

Suneisha L. Williams Georgia Bar No. 417632 Counsel for Plaintiff PO Box 52421 Atlanta, GA 30355 (404) 490-3740

swilliams@swlfllc.com

/s/ Howard M. Lessinger

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